Marine Chemicals Research Institute at Bhawnagar and Zanjmer in Gujarat. Central Arid Zone Research Institute has been evaluating its performance at Jodhpur. Some experiments have been conducted at Mettupalayam (Tamil Nadu) and in coastal area of Orissa. At all these places it is still under experimentation.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) The data on relative economics of its cultivation on field scale is not available as it is still under evaluation.

(d) and (e) Yes, Sir. The Central Salt and Marine Chemicals Research Institute is trying Guayule for rubber as an alternative source. It is also under experimentation.

Improved Packing of Processed Foodstuff

2896. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether NAFED is planning to improve packing of processed foodstuff for export and if so, the details thereof indicating the percentage of cost of packaging of each product *vis-a-vis* the contents;

(b) whether Government propose to fix maximum producers' and consumers' prices of all items being exported as the consumers prices are being raised to very high level by middlemen; and

(c) what is the annual production of items exported by NAFED as on 1st April 1970, 1st April, 1980 and Ist April, 1985?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI G. S. DHILLON): (a) NAFED is conscious of improved packing as an aid to export of processed foodstuffs. It has, however, not yet formulated any project for the purpose.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) NAFED maintains records and accounts on Cooperative Year basis (July—June). The figures regarding production and export are as under:—

Value (Rs. in Lakh)

Year (as on 30th June)	Gross production	Export
1970	Nil	Nil
1980	117·67	30.20
1985	216·35	66.31

2897. [*Transferred to the 19th March, 1987.*]

Working of bidies connected with price rise resstance consumers' movement

2898. DR. MOHD. HASHIM KIDWAI: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) the number and names of official and non-official bodies and associations connected with the price rise resistance consumers' movement in the country, State-wise, till December, 1986;

(b) the number and names of such non-official bodies and associations receiving financial help from Government; and

(c) whether any assessment has been made of the working of these bodies by Government?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI H. K. L. BHAGAT): (a) A number of voluntary consumer organisations are reported to be functioning in various parts of the country. A list is enclosed at Annexure-I. [*See* Appendix CXLI, Annexure No. 128].

(b) and (c) A list of consumer organisations which have received financial assistance from the Central Government is given in the enclosed Statement (*See* below). These organisations submit utilisation certificates in regard to the financial assistance given to them.

Statement

List of Associations receiving financial assistance from the Government

1. Surat Grahak Mandal, Surat.
2. Mahilla Dakshata Samiti, New Delhi.
3. Karnataka Consumers' Forum, Bangalore.
4. Consumers' Action Forum, Calcutta.
5. Consumer Service Society, New Delhi.
6. Akhil Bhartiya Grahak Panchayat, Pune.
7. Karnataka Consumer Service Society, Bangalore.
8. Consumer Giudance Society of India, Bombay.
9. Indian Federation of Consumer Organisations, New Delhi.
10. Visakha Consumers' Council, Vishakhapatnam.
11. Consumer Education and Research Centre, Ahmedabad.
12. National Consumer Front, New Delhi.
13. Mahila Udhogik Sahakari Society, Karad.
14. Consumers' Forum (Regd.), New Delhi.
15. Citizens' Forum, Hubli.
16. Institute of Tribal Dialect and Culture, Bhubaneshwar.
17. Society for Civic Rights, New Delhi.
18. Trichy District Consumer Council, Trichy.
19. Consumer Guidance Society of Jamshedpur, Jamshedpur.
20. Consumers' Association, Bhimavaram.

Night shelters in metropolitan cities

2899 DR. MOHD. HASHIM KIDWAI: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to open 'more Ran Baseras' or night shelters in metropolitan cities of the country other than Delhi;

(b) if so, by when these night shelters or Ran Baseras are likely to be opened; and

(c) if answer to part (a) above be in negative, what are the main difficulties in launching this scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) to (c) Urban Development is a State subject. The question of providing Ran Baseras or night shelters in metropolitan cities is the concern of the respective State Governments and Union Territories. HUDCO have on different occasions requested the Housing and Urban Development agencies in different States for formulation of such projects with HUDCO loan assistance. No such project have been forwarded so far by the eligible Housing and Urban Development agencies in the States/UTs.